FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 MAY 1985

Sudan-Egypt-Libya

The "fair punishment" of former President Ja'far Numayri and his clique has become a Sudanese and Arab demand because of their "treason" against the Arab nation's "decisive issue," SUNA stated in a report on Numayri's alleged involvement in the "conspiracy" of moving Falasha Jews to Israel. In a related development, the agency cited an Egyptian magazine article claiming that Numayri met secretly in Nairobi with former Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to conclude the deal on transporting Falashas.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* reported that Egypt has turned down a Sudanese request for Numayri's extradition and has threatened economic sanctions against Sudan following the latter's insistence that an improvement in relations is contingent on handing over Numayri, according to KUNA. This dispute and Sudan's rapprochement with Libya and Ethiopia have seriously strained bilateral relations, threatening a collapse of the integration agreement built up in recent years, the paper said.

For Egypt's part, Cairo's Voice of the Arabs radio castigated Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in commentaries on 7 and 8 May, urging the Libyan people to unite and storm Al-Qadhdhafi's "strongholds of oppression."

In Libya, Tripoli radio expressed condolences to Al-Qadhdhafi over his father's death on 8 May, an event which caused the Libyan leader to postpone a scheduled visit to Burundi, according to Bujumbura radio.

Lebanon

Fierce fighting erupted in eastern Sidon along the Lib'a and Kafr Falus combat lines, Beirut radio reported. Army of southern Lebanon (ASL) commander Antoine Lahd affirmed that his forces can maintain security in the areas they occupy without IDF assistance, though he contended that Israeli forces would respond to his request for assistance if the ASL faced a "large-scale attack by hostile regular forces" in the border area, ASL's Voice of Hope radio related. Meanwhile, the IDF spokesman in an announcement carried by ITIM revealed that the Israeli navy successfully destroyed a terrorist boat south of Tyre the night of 7 May. All five terrorists were killed.

DRA

The DRA Government denied Pakistani Foreign Ministry "groundless accusations" of airspace violations on 23, 26, 29 April and on 3 May, Kabul radio stated.

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Pakistani Airspace Violation Charge Rejected
LD081748 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the DRA's Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1230 today and the following points were made to him by the director of the First Political Directorate:

The militarist authorities of Pakistan, in line with their previous groundless allegations, have once again alleged that on 3 May 1985, four Afghan aircraft entered the airspace of Pakistan and violated the southeast of the Arandu region as a result of which no damage occurred.

The DRA Government, after investigating and assessing this untrue allegation, rejects it resolutely and demands that the Pakistani authorities put an end to such accusations that have no result but to aggravate tension on the border.

Security Forces Crush Rebel Bands, Seize Materiel
LD082146 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Quoting a security forces spokesman in Nangarhar Province, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of a successful operation recently mounted by the militant security forces in Torabura and Achin Districts, Payko, Mohmand, and Abdullah Kheyl villages, a number of savage rebels belonging to the criminal bands of Meli Mahaz, Etehad-e Eslami, Harakat-e Eslami, and Mowlawi Khalis were crushed together with their murderous leaders Karim, Mola Kochi, and Mola Juma.

The security forces seized 15 DShK's and 2,000 rounds of ammunition; 45 rocket launchers together with 60,000 rounds; 10 ZK-1; 5 recoilless rifles with 80,000 rounds; 20 mortars with 58 rounds; 250 other weapons; 40 binoculars; 4 pieces of mine exploding equipment; and more than 400,000 rounds of ammunition that had been sent by the imperialist countries and Chinese hegemonists for the murder and plunder of our innocent compatriots. Also, 700 suits and overcoats, 800 beds, and 200 rolls of Japanese cloth which had been plundered by these thieves from our noble compatriots were captured.

In addition 10 ZK-1, 10 DShK's, 120 other assorted weapons, 2 foodstores, 6 clothing depots, 7 ammunition dumps, 4 medical storerooms, 6 hiding places, and thousands of rounds of assorted weapons were destroyed. These villages have now been cleansed from the presence of criminals

According to another report, as a result of a successful operation recently mounted by our security forces in the Zibak subdistrict, Badakhshan Province, a number of rebels were killed. Seven of these murderers were captured along with 1 rocket launcher, 7 assorted weapons, and 1,119 rounds of ammunition, 5 mines, 1 binocular, and a large quantity of antistate documents proving their treacherous links with imperialist states.

In the villages of Andkhoy and Dawlatabad Districts, Faryab Province, during a successful operation mounted recently by the militant security forces, 18 armed rebels including their ringleader, Muhammad Sharif, belonging to the criminal Meli Mahaz band were crushed; 31 rebels were captured, and 1 rocket launcher along with 5 rounds of ammunition, 2 heavy machineguns, 45 assorted weapons along with 65,000 rounds of ammunition were seized from them.

Mujahidin Operations in Ghowr, Konduz Noted
GF072010 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1700 GMT 7 May 85

[Text] A report from Ghowr Province indicates that our Muslim mujahidin, in a rocket attack on an infidel post in Chaghcharan region, destroyed the post, killing seven soldiers. Three soldiers were captured. The mujahidin also destroyed one enemy tank and captured seven weapons and several boxes of ammunition. Two days after this attack by the Islamic mujahidin the defeated enemy retaliated and bombed the Sitamarg and Shishanork villages and other regions, destroying scores of rural dwellings. In this bombardment five civilians were killed.

In Konduz, the mujahidin in Khanabad attacked a government post. In this fight lasting several hours the mujahidin killed several mercenaries and captured two weapons. Earlier, in a rocket attack in Shahr-e Khushk region one enemy helicopter was downed. Earlier in the same region a number of enemy soldiers, aided by a traitor, ambushed the Muslim mujahidin. The mujahidin discovered the plot in time, and in a 2-hour fight killed 33 enemy soldiers.

The Muslim mujahidin some time earlier attacked Kushang village and killed four mercenaries and wounded several others. In this fight the mujahidin also captured (?two) enemy soldiers. They also captured some weapons.

Nation To Seek $1.92 Billion at Paris Aid Meeting

HK081524 Hong Kong AFP in English 1121 GMT 8 May 85

[By Roushan Zaman]

[Text] Dhaka, May 8 (AFP) — Bangladesh is to seek 1.92 billion dollars in development assistance from Western donors at the annual "Aid Bangladesh Consortium" meeting in Paris tomorrow, officials here said.

Bangladesh finance adviser M. Syeduzzaman, who is to make the aid request at the meeting, has said Bangladesh wants 1.05 billion dollars in project aid, 560 million dollars in commodity assistance and 310 million dollars worth of food.

Mr. Syeduzzaman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE before leaving for Paris on Saturday with his seven-member delegation that Bangladesh would ask aid donors not to tie aid to specific projects, because tied aid in recent times had increased the cost of many projects.

He also said that Bangladesh would ask for more commodity and food aid, and greater support for private sector industrial financing.

The Aid Bangladesh Consortium, the largest aid group organised under auspices of the World Bank, brings together 14 donor countries and a dozen international development finance agencies and affiliates of the United Nations.

The two-day Paris meeting, to be presided over by World Bank Vice President William David Hopper, is to consider what aid to allocate for the fiscal year 1985-86, which begins in July.

"We will put our case in the context of the difficulties we have passed through," an official at the External Resources Division of the Finance Ministry said.

Last year the consortium pledged 1.7 billion for the current fiscal year, and according to an official here "the disbursements have been satisfactory."

A memorandum, which has already been circulated among the donors, projected that the country's economic growth rate for the current fiscal year, originally targetted at five percent, was expected to be only 3.8 percent.

Officials here ascribed the setback to unforeseen natural calamities like drought and floods that caused heavy damage to the country's agricultural sector.

"The setback suffered in the agriculture sector had its repercussions on the industrial sector, where growth also slowed down," one official pointed out.

Officials said that large amounts of food had to be imported, causing heavy erosion of domesitc resouces.

The country's foreign exchange reserves also declined as total remittances from Bangladeshis working abroad fell to 450 million dollars this year, from 550 million dollars in the last fiscal year.

Officials said the Finance Ministry was also concerned at the unsatisfactory level of recovery of credits — both industrial and agricultural — resulting in expansion of money supply and inflation.

Officials maintained that export growth would be substantially higher this year, rising to 900 million dollars, compared with last year's figure of 822 million dollars.

Planners in Dhaka were optimistic about what one called "certain redeeming features" of the economy.

They expressed hope that Bangladesh's gross domestic product during next fiscal year would achieve a growth rate of 5.4 percent.

One such feature, an economist at the Planning Ministry said, was the "fast-developing" natural gas sector, which helps keep oil imports down.

Another feaure, Mr. Syeduzzaman said recently, was that demand for private investment in industries was gaining momentum.

A World Bank official in Dhaka said that Western donors, which had pumped nearly 16 billion dollars in development aid into Bangladesh since the early 1970s, had stressed that requests for a greater level of aid should be matched by "increasing efforts to raise domestic resources and efficiency in implementing projects."

Government Watching Calcutta Koran Trial

BK081553 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The Bangladesh Government, along with other Muslim countries, is watching the progress of the case filed by two private individuals in the Calcutta High Court regarding the confiscation of the Holy Koran.

A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said in Dhaka today that the Government of Bangladesh beleives the Indian Government, with more than 90 million Muslims in its own country, is fully alive to the feelings of the entire Muslim umma [community] on this question. He said, although in the corduct of relations between two sovereign states it is not appropriate for any government to formally take up a matter of this nature without awaiting the final outcome of the case, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has apprised the Indian authorities about the feelings of the people of Bangladesh on this development.

Gandhi Holds Meeting With Opposition on Punjab

BK081601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had another meeting with opposition leaders in New Delhi today to discuss the situation in Punjab. They considered the political developments since the meeting last week including the developments within the Akali Dal. The recent incidents of violence also figured in the discussions. The general feeling was that they should wait for the outcome of the Akali leader meeting on the 17th and resume the discussions as early as possible after this meeting. It was stated by the government side that the authorities have stepped up the vigil on extremist elements. The recent incident in Chandigarh showed how the security forces had given chase to an extremist and apprehended him. The morale of the police force was high. The general desire of the meeting was that everyone should work together to find peaceful solution to the problem. The feeling was that the ordinary people of Punjab were fed up with violence. However, the fear was expressed that this very situation will be utilized by the extremists to foul the atmosphere and reduce the chances of a solution. This calls for vigilance on the part of everyone.

Apart from the prime minister, the government was represented at the meeting by the minister for defense, home, finance, education and parliamentary affairs. The home secretary was also present. From the opposition side, those who attended the meeting included representatives of Telugu Desam, CPI-M, CPI, AIADMK [All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam], Janata, Congress-S, Lok Dal, National Conference-Farooq Group, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], Forward Block, RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party], Muslim League, and DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam].

Gandhi Welcomes Soviet Initiatives for Detente

BK080724 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Many countries are celebrating the D-Day [as heard] anniversary today. It was on this day 40 years ago that World War II ended in Europe.

On the occasion, the prime minister has reiterated India's commitment for world peace and disarmament. In a message to the Friends of the Soviet Union, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that the 6-nation declaration made earlier this year reflects our strong urge and commitment for world peace. He welcomed Soviet initiatives in the direction of detente describing them as positive.

Mr Gandhi also lauded the efforts of antifascist forces all over the world spearheaded by the Soviet Union who helped in defeating fascism. He said the Indian leaders lent unequivocal, moral, and political support to the people struggling against fascism in Europe and in other parts of the world.

The British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, have also sent messages.

Chavan Implicates 4 Soviets in Espionage Case

BK090853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0833 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] The home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, told the Rajya Sabha today that there are no reports to indicate largescale infiltration of Pakistani nationals into Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab or Rajasthan. He said some persons might have entered surreptitiously. The minister assured the house that a constant vigil is maintained on the borders.

The house was also informed that investigations in the espionage case have indicated the involvement of a few foreign diplomats and that they received highly classified and sensitive documents supplied to them by Coomar Narain and his associates.

Mr S.B. Chavan told the house that 10 foreign diplomats 2 each of the Embassies of France, Poland, GDR, 3 of the Soviet Embassy and 1 Soviet official have been identified for their involvement in the case. Some of them left India before the busting of the espionage, while the rest left soon afterward. The minsiter said 18 persons have been prosecuted by the Delhi police under the official secrets acts.

Minister on Proposal for Nuclear Pact With Pakistan

BK090855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] It was officially stated in the Rajya Sabha today that there is no proposal for a nuclear pact with Pakistan. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, said this in a written reply to a question. He said the Pakistan Government claims that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes only, but the government has noted with concern reports pointing toward the possibility of Pakistan's nuclear program having a non-peaceful dimension. The minister was asked through another question whether government proposes to change its nuclear policy. He replied that while India's policy continues to be to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes only, all relevant factors are taken into account in the formulation of policy.

Rao Meets With Seychelles Defense Minister

BK080728 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has called upon the littoral countries of the Indian Ocean to fight unitedly to retain the ocean as a zone of peace. Speaking at a dinner given in the honor of the visiting defense minister of Seychelles, Mr Ogilvie Berlouis, he said this must be done not only for today but also for the benefit of future generations. Mr Rao asked all nations with the conscience to address themselves to the vital question of proliferation of nuclear weapons. The defense minister expressed confidence that the visit of Mr Berlouis will give further impetus to positive cooperation between the two countries.

In his reply, Mr Berlouis said his country feels greatly concerned over the increasing superpower presence in the Indian Ocean in

recent times. He said we cannot live with the perpetual threat of a nuclear holocaust. He spoke of Seychelles' fruitful association with India and expressed the hope that bilateral relations will be further strengthened.

Minister on Publishing Maps of Restricted Areas

BK081538 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The home minister assured the Lok Sabha today that government is maintaining utmost vigilance to safeguard the country's security and integrity. Any individual or organization found to engage in activities prejudicial to national security will be dealt with sternly.

Mr S.B. Chavan was replying to a calling attention motion moved by Mr Indrajit Gupta, CPI, and others. He told the house that the (?Kodal) commission of enquiry is looking into allegations against Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development, AVARD, and its closely connected organization regarding publication of maps of restricted areas without proper authorization. The commission has satisfied itself about the existence of a prima facie case of violation of Official Secrets Act and the map restriction policy against them. It has issued show cause notice to persons representing AVARD, Nagaland Peace Center, Nagaland Gandhi Ashram, and Mitra Niketan to appear before it on the 13th of this month.

Mr Chavan assured the house that since prima facie case has been established by the commission, CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] and IB [Investigation Bureau] will now be consulted for further action in the matter. He agreed with the members that AVARD has been getting huge sums from a foreign agency. The (?Kodal) commission has found that AVARD arranged to obtain copies of restricted maps of areas in Nagaland and supplied such copies to a foreign agency with the purpose of obtaining funds to be utilized by Nagaland Peace Center, Kohima, and Nagaland Gandhi Ashram. It has also come to the notice of the commission that some maps of restricted areas of Velayan Panchayat Kerala have been published in a book. The commission obtained the comments of both survey of India and Ministry of Defense in the matter. Both are of the opinion that some of these maps pertained to restricted areas and needed prior clearance for publication.

Further Reportage on Visit by Australia's Hayden

Melbourne on Arrival

BK081107 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, has arrived in New Delhi at the start of a tour of four South Asian nations. During his 2-day stay in the Indian capital, Mr Hayden is to have talks with India's prime minister, Mr Gandhi, who is also his country's foreign minister.

Mr Hayden told Radio Australia's New Delhi correspondent, John Mills, that the aim of his visit to India was to find ways of giving substance to Indo-Australian relations, which he said had been allowed to drift. The Australian minister said the development of commercial relations would provide such substance.

In preliminary talks with India's junior minister for foreign affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, Mr Hayden sought Indian support for conventions outlawing chemical weapons and for a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. Mr Khan raised the issue of Australian aid to India, currently running at $2 million [Australian dollars] a year. Mr Hayden said that, although a recent report had recommended a higher priority be given to aid for India, budgetary restrictions in Australia ruled this out for the present.

During his talks with Indian leaders, Mr Hayden is also expected to discuss the North-South dialogue between industrialized and developing countries and the militarization of the Indian Ocean. The Australian foreign minister is also to visit Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Nonproliferation Proposal Rejected

BK081339 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] India has rejected Australian suggestions that it consider joining the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and gives support to Australian initiatives for a comprehensive test ban treaty.

The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, had earlier put those propositions to India's junior foreign minister, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan.

However, in meetings in New Delhi with senior Indian officials, Mr Hayden was told that, while India would not sign the treaty, it did adhere to its provisions. The Australian minister was told that India did not want nor had any intention of acquiring nuclear weaponry.

Mr Hayden, who is making his first official visit to the region, expressed his concern at the armed buildup of both India and Pakistan and the possibility that both could acquire nuclear weapons.

Radio Australia's correspondent in New Delhi, John Mills, says India's response has been expected. India has a significant nuclear power industry and in 1974 exploded a nuclear device.

Mills says also within the short meeting with India's finance minister, Mr V.P. Singh, Mr Hayden was told that India needed to remove some of the major obstacles to freer trade with the outside world.

Our reporter says trade between India and Australia is worth about $250 million [currency not further specified] a year, and there is interest from both countries in increasing this.

Mr Hayden is also due to meet India's prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

Hayden News Conference

BK081629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The Australian foreign minister, Mr William George Hayden, today expressed concern over the situation in Sri Lanka and called for a political solution to the ethnic problem in that country. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi, he said human rights must be upheld in Sri Lanka. Mr Hayden was of the view that the problem cannot be solved by violence. He said the issue will be figuring in his talks with the Sri Lankan leaders during his visit to that country.

Mr Hayden agreed with the Indian viewpoint to keep the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, but he felt that a conference on the Indian Ocean under UN auspices could not be a success without the participation of the two superpowers.

On bilateral cooperation, Mr Hayden said there is scope to improve commercial relations, and the Australian trade minister will be visiting India in October for talks. He said Australia is also interested in a joint satellite venture with India for communications.

Mr Hayden described his talks with Indian leaders as friendly and cordial.

In reply to a question, he said India and Australia differ in their approach on the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and on a comprehensive test ban treaty.

Fresh Violence Erupts in Ahmedabad; Curfew Imposed

BK090310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, indefinite curfew has been clamped in all the areas under the Kalupur police station. The Army has started patrolling the area. This followed fresh violence last night when police were forced to open fire to control an unruly mob indulging in stone throwing, looting, and arson. Incidents of stabbing were also reported. According to the city police control, 7 persons including a police subinspector were killed in violent incidents; 15 others including 2 policemen were also injured.

The situation in the rest of the city is peaceful. Curfew has been relaxed from 0500 to 1900 in Saraspur area. In the old city, only night curfew from 0100 to 0500 remained in force.

Situation 'Under Control'

BK090917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] The district and taluk [revenue area] employees all over Gujarat began an indefinite strike today. They are demanding implementation of the sandhawi committee's report on the roster system for promotion of government and semigovernment services. The state panchayat and rural development minister, Mr Daulatbhai Parmar, told the All India Radio correspondent that according to preliminary reports the majority of the Class-III employees had gone on strike today. However, employees belong to some sections did not respond to the call for the strike given by the federation of the panchayat employees. Class-I and Class-II officers and Class-IV employees did not join the strike.

In Ahmedabad, the situation in the areas under Kalupur police station, which are under indefinite curfew since early this morning, is under control. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere so far. Army and police patrolling continues in these areas.

Morning Curfew Relaxed in Gurdaspur, Dhariwal

BK090946 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] In Punjab, the curfew was relaxed for 3 hours from 0700 to 1000 this morning in Gurdaspur and Dhariwal towns to enable people to buy necessities. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the curfew in these towns will continue till further orders as a precautionary measure.

The Rajya Sabha was told today that 90 persons were killed in stray incidents of violence in Punjab in the past 10 months. In a written reply, the minister of state for home affairs, Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha, said 1,006 persons were arrested during last July to 23d of last month. Criminal cases were registered which are at various stages of investigation or trial.

PRC Army Group Told of Need for Atomic Energy

BK070436 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 May 85

[Text] A high-level Chinese military delegation held talks with senior officials of the Water and Power Development Authority in Lahore yesterday. The delegation was briefed about works being done in the fields of water and power. The delegation was informed that China's engineers and technicians are now engaged in installing in Guddu a 210-megawatt unit which is now in the last stage of completion. It was told that in view of the shortage of electricity being faced by Pakistan, it is necessary to carry forward Pakistan's atomic energy program without any hindrance.

Afghan Mujahidin Continuing Operations in Badghis

BK081521 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Reports received from Afghanistan say that mujahidin operations against Soviet-Karmal troops in Badghis Province are continuing. During their operations, mujahidin inflicted heavy casualties and destroyed many armored vehicles and military trucks. Another report says that a mujahidin group attacked a military camp on the 23d of last month and forced the Soviet-Karmal troops to leave the camp after brief fighting.

MASHRIQ on Soviet Threat, Afghanistan Issue

GF081529 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 5 May 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Unguarded Reaction of Politicians on the Afghan Problem"]

[Text] Agha Shahi, the expert politician on international issues, in a press interview advised politicians that they should not press for direct talks with the government of Babrak Karmal on the Afghanistan issue because the path chosen by Pakistan for a peaceful solution to the problems through talks under the auspices of the United Nations was the most suitable and safe course. We think that this is the wisest counsel and that the politicians should not oppose the government's principled stand on the Afghanistan question. Those politicians accustomed to insulting the United States on everything and uphold the views of the Soviet Union are not to be blamed because they have linked their political future with Moscow and Kabul. Their views are based on the views of those two capitals. In contrast there are some politicians who, although they oppose the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, think that any confrontation with the Soviet Union would be too dangerous. Therefore, they press for direct talks with Kabul. We think they are right as far as the question of a confrontation with the Soviet Union is concerned. We must avoid such a confrontation, but this attitude should not give the impression that on the question of Afghanistan, Pakistan is playing the role of an American tool. However, their advice that Pakistan should hold direct talks with Kabul is open to question. We do not consider it sound advice. First, because UN involvement gives some importance and prestige to the question and Kabul and Moscow continue to remain under pressure of world opinion, while if direct talks are started with Kabul it will become a bilateral issue. This also weakens Pakistan's principled stand. Second, what guarantee is there that direct talks would bear fruit? If there is a guarantee that direct talks would result in a withdrawal of Soviet forces and an honorable and safe return of the refugees to their homes, then Pakistan could accept this path also. But obviously direct talks, instead of becoming fruitful, could become a means for again throwing the whole question into a melting pot. Maybe this is the reason that both Kabul and Moscow are pressing for direct talks. However, as far as counsels of some of the politicians are concerned that Pakistan should not play the role of an American tool on the Afghanistan question, we, while accepting the logic of this counsel, fail to understand what made these politicians give this advice. Pakistan's stand on this question is based on its principle and is not based on any leaning toward the United States or hostility toward the Soviet Union. If the United States, like the majority of the world nations, supports Pakistan's stance, this does not mean that Pakistan and the United States have some secret understanding or collusion between them. The fact is that just as Pakistan considers the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan a threat not only to itself but to the whole region — and has taken the stand that a peaceful solution to the Afghan problem should be sought on the basis of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the United State also considers the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan a source of Soviet influence in this very sensitive region, and has risen to oppose it. This fact makes the interests of Pakistan and the United States coincide. Incidentally this coincidence happens to be to the good of Pakistan. However, there is nothing about this that says Pakistan has become a tool of the United States or that it has joined any American plot against the Soviet Union. If this were so then Pakistan would have accepted the offer of a defense pact with the United States as soon the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. But quite contrary to this Pakistan insisted on maintaining its nonaligned status. This was the right decision. If in the interest of its regional or global policies the United States is interested in the defense strength of Pakistan, this can only be for the good of Pakistan. Since interests of both coincide in this region, the new infrastructure of the relationship has proved to be stronger and more trustworthy than the defense pact signed by the United States and Pakistan as two allies. In this way Pakistan gains twice as much because it keeps its nonaligned status and its new relationship with the United States. However, it is true that Pakistan cannot think of any confrontation with the Soviet Union on the Afghanistan issue. Pakistan has made it clear to the Soviet Union that it does not want to create any problem for the Soviet Union on its southern borders, nor is it interested in any regime in Afghanistan that may remain hostile toward the Soviet Union. On the contrary, it is pressing for restoring Afghanistan's sovereignty and nonaligned status. Pakistan also favors a provision of international guarantees that, after the withdrawal of Soviet forces, there would be no foreign interference in Afghanistan. All past Soviet regimes have supported this stand and have assured Pakistan that the Soviet Union will not resort to any aggression against Paksitan. We hope that the Gorbachev regime will act likewise and abstain from any new adventure. If the Soviet Union tries to put pressure on Pakistan, it will see that Pakistan will never fall to its knees. If the Soviet Union, despite its huge military forces, could not overpower a handful of Afghan mujahidin in 5 years, it will not find Pakistan an easy morsel to swallow.

BHUTAN

Delhi Notes Indian Foreign Secretary's Arrival

BK081634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 85

[Excerpt] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, had a meeting with the Bhutan foreign minister, Mr Dawa Tsering, soon after his arrival in Thimpu today. Mr Bhandari is in Bhutan as part of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's initiative to improve relations with neighboring countries. He will take part in the meeting of the standing committee of the South Asian Regional Cooperation countries and of the foreign ministers.

NEPAL

Foreign Secretary Meets With Pakistani Official

BK081331 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Pakistan and Nepal have expressed satisfaction at the stage of their bilateral relations and agreed to expedite implementation of the cooperation program. The visiting Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr Niaz A. Naik, and his Nepalese counterpart, Mr Biswa Pradhan, at their talks in Katmandu have reviewed the implementation of the decisions of Pakistan-Nepal Joint Economic Commission, especially in the area of trade, industry, agriculture, and cultural cooperation. They also agreed to finalize the proposed memorandum of understanding and cooperation in agriculture research.

Naik Reiterates Nuclear Stand

BK081156 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Pakistan and Nepal have expressed satisfaction with their bilateral relations and agreed to accelerate the pace of implementation of cooperation programs. This was stated during a meeting between Pakistani Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik and his Nepalese counterpart, Vishnu Pradhan, in Katmandu. They reviewed bilateral relations and discussed matters relating to South Asian Regional Cooperation and international issues of mutual interest.

Talking to newsmen earlier, Niaz A. Naik reiterated Pakistan's desire to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

AFP: Protestors Give Petition to Royal Palace

HK090048 Hong Kong AFP in English 0011 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Katmandu, May 8 (AFP) — A mass petition protesting price rises and other grievances was handed over today at the royal palace after a march through Katmandu by 1,000 members of the banned Nepali Congress Party and student supporters. The petition was addressed to King Birendra and was signed by people from throughout the Katmandu region. Organizers said 319,000 had put their names to the petition.

The grievances include increases in the cost of essential goods and electricity charges, broad-scale unemployment, inadequate supplies of drinking water, alleged misappropriation of government funds, and the "rampant corruption" in administration.

It also protested insecurity for civil servants and discrimination against local labourers in favour of foreign workers, the deterioration in education standards, deforestation, and a decline in agricultural production.

General secretary of the banned party, Girija Prasad Koirala, said there was widespread dissatisfaction with the government of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand, which administers Nepal under a partyless system called Panchayat.

He warned that his supporters were going to begin a campaign of civil disobedience and called for the restoration of a multiparty political system.

SRI LANKA

BBC on 'Breakdown' of Relations With India

BK081301 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 8 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Relations between India and Sri Lanka have taken a sharp turn to the worse owing to critical remarks about Sri Lanka's Tamil separatist problem made in Parliament in Delhi by India's minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan. His remarks already drawn a formal protest from Colombo, and now a Sri Lankan Government spokesman has said his country's participation in next week's South Asian Regional Cooperation conference in Bhutan has been put in question. This report from Allen McDonald in Colombo.

[Begin recording] The spokesman said the Sri Lanka Government believes that there was no point in participating in a conference if Sri Lanka's problems were distorted and totally incorrect statements made about them in national assemblies of neighboring countries. Among other things, the Indian minister of state had called for the withdrawal of troops from Tamil areas and spoken of events in Sri Lanka as brutal, barbaric, and inhuman.

The spokesman said the minister of state's remarks about discrimination against Tamils were grossly incorrect, irresponsible, and totally out of step of what he called the constructive and friendly disposition of Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

However, observers see this is a major breakdown in relations between the two countries, which have been deteriorating for some time over Sri Lanka's failure to take any concrete steps to achieve a political settlement on the separatist issue. India has a key role to play in any settlement, and following a visit to Colombo earlier this year by the Indian foreign secretary, Mr Bhandari, there was an air of optimism that the Sri Lankans might take an initiative in return for a tougher line from the

Indians on the separatist activities in south India. No such proposals materialized, and there was no give of India's concern about a proposed Voice of America transmitting station in Sri Lanka. Instead, there were renewed verbal attacks on India by President Jayewardene. [End recording]

Indian Advisory Group Tantamount to 'Interference'
HK080622 Hong Kong AFP in English 0542 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 8 (AFP) — Sri Lanka has hit out at India for what it called intemperate statements on the recent sectarian clashes and the Tamil issue here.

Acting Foreign Minister Tyronne Fernando told Parliament that Sri Lanka had protested to India about remarks made by Kurshid Alam Khan, Indian minister of state for external affairs in the Lok Sabha.

Meanwhile National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he had no plans to meet Indian home minister S.B. Chavan, chairman of a special advisory group on Sri Lanka appointed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi last month.

Mr. Athulathmudali was referring to speculation in the local press that Colombo would contact the advisory group and that the security minister would open a dialogue with Mr. Chavan.

Mr. Athulathmudali held talks with Mr. Gandhi earlier this year in New Delhi as special envoy of President Junius Jayewardene.

Informed sources told AFP that some ministers considered the appointment of the advisory group tantamount to interference in Sri Lanka's internal affairs.

Moreover these ministers feel that answering queries by the group or negotiating with it would amount to accepting a major role for India in what is seen were as an essentially internal affair, the sources said.

Militants among the island's 2.5 million Tamils are waging an often-violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

The government has taken strong exception to Mr. Alam Khan's statement that the Muslims here should realise the Tamils were fighting for their cause too. Mr. Khan was apparently referring to the recent Tamil-Muslim clashes in the Eastern Province in which more than 90 persons have died by unofficial count.

Referring to Mr. Khan's remark that the Colombo government should withdraw its Armed Forces from the north and east, Mr. Fernando said that this advice was "more practical and useful to India where Armed Forces were stationed in the state of Punjab."

Mr. Fernando answering a question on the Lok Sabha statement said that persons such as Mr. Khan "should not give the impression that India is a big bully to its small neighbour."

He said Colombo would like to see India "act with responsibility" so that the meeting next week of the South Asia Regional Cooperation (SARC), in Bhutan would be a success.

"We are still confident the Indian prime minister, who is also the foreign minister, and other responsible leaders in India will be genuinely helpful in solving this problem."

Relations between India and Sri Lanka fell to a low ebb late last year over the ethnic issue and differences over incidents in the Palk Strait separating the two countries.

Observers said ties improved with the recent visit to Colombo by Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari. But a new war of words has started, they held, adding that such a development could set back bilateral ties.

Delhi: 10 Killed in Northern Province Violence
BK090324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 10 persons including 5 soldiers are reported killed and several injured in two separate incidents in the Northern Province. UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA] quoting reports reaching Colombo says the soldiers were killed near Valvedditturai when Tamil militants blasted an Army truck. In another incident at Murikandi, 5 militants were killed and 15 injured when troops opened fire near a wayside temple.

Khomeyni Receives Information Minister Reyshahri

LD081826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Information Minister Reyshahri met Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning and submitted a report on the performance of and issues relating to his ministry.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Praises Oil Workers

LD082128 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani today praised a group of Iranian technicians and Oil Ministry workers who had controlled the oil well number five of "Nowruz" from which oil spewed for sometime after it had been hit by Iraqi rockets during the Iraqi-Iran war.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani who was speaking to a group of visiting employees of the Oil Ministry credited for tapping the oil well said the past regime in Iran would spend staggering amounts of money in payment to American experts for far simpler operations while an enormous task such as that of tapping the Nowruz oil well ahd been tackled solely by Iranian workers and by using rather elementary and simple apparatus.

Rafsanjani said to the visiting team of oil well workers that the Islamic Republic feels proud for having such self-committed people and said that in their bold endeavour they had been obviously promoted by an inner urge for serving the nation and the values of the Islamic Revolution or else they would not have braved the aerial attacks of the Iraqi Air Force by working on the well in the wartime condition.

He expressed hope that the Islamic Republic would shortly triumph in the war and that Iran's committed workers would also be a source of pride to other world Muslims.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Visit to PRC 'Imminent'

LD082158 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA — An Iranian Foreign Ministry official and the Chinese ambassador in Tehran Wednesday discussed the imminent visit to China by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In the meeting Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam said the trip on the invitation of the Chinese Government, would further expand ties between the two countries.

The ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Fan Zuokai, said senior officials in his country "greatly valued Mr. Rafsanjani's trip to Beijing".

The two sides also discussed existing bilateral ties and other issues of mutual interest. Zuokai praised what he said was "reasoned Iranian policy in the international arena".

Chief of Staff Comments on Army Capabilities

GF081445 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 17 Apr 85 p 1

["Exclusive" interview with Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi, chief of Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, by unidentified *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* correspondent in Tehran — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] How would you evaluate the condition of the Army during the past 6 years compared with its condition before the revolution, and what in your opinion has been the major development in the Army following the Islamic Revolution?

[Sohrabi] The Islamic Army has changed in principle and everyone has witnessed this during the 6 years following the revolution. It has changed from an idolatrous Army to an ideological Army with the characteristics I have mentioned before. During the short time we have, I will point out a few examples of the major changes that have taken place in the years following the revolution, which are as follows:

1. As a result of philosophical teaching, the Islamic Republic's Army has achieved a worthy respect and identity among the internal and foreign observers of the region and of the world as an example of the first real Islamic Army to be followed and adopted.

2. The Army of the Islamic Republic has been liberated by the blessings of the Islamic Revolution. It has been able to positively and effectively prepare, create, compile and put into effect strategic and tactical operations and techniques applicable to it's conditions outside the influence of superpowers and within the framework of the Constitution.

3. During the years following the revolution, the Islamic Republic Army has provided educational opportunities for the military personnel, particularly for commanders, managers and experts, in order to enable them to carry out their responsibilities for unity and to evaluate their decisions independently, thus allowing them to use their initiative wherever applicable and no longer feel the pressure of the presence of unqualified foreign agents posing as military advisors. In this way they practice self-confidence every day.

4. The Islamic Republic Army, during the years following the revolution, through its war experiences, realised that achievements to the point of self-sufficiency are possible even for armies in the Third World.

5. The Islamic Republic Army realised that a general and overall mobilization in a true sense for planning and military missions can only be possible if the army becomes the people and the people the army. This is only achievable through the Islamic philosophy.

6. The Islamic Republic Army realized that it can achieve military goals without resorting to the use of international arms dealers and countries who use the military industrial problems of

Iran to fill their pockets, and replaced the faithless and purposeless armament with morals based on faith.

7. The establishment of a relationship between the military personnel within the Islamic Republic Army has changed from superficial discipline and spiteful, unfair, and agitating policies to a state of discipline from within, which is sincere and tranquil. The relationship between the supervisor and the subordinate and the commander and soldier has become one of brotherly cooperation in light of the teaching of the Koran and Islam.

8. The knowledge and education of the Islamic Republic personnel with an ideological basis and political and social affairs has increased to a noticeable level. I must say that there are many other major changes following the revolution within the Army that can be mentioned, but due to lack of time I am unable to do so.

[Correspondent] In connection with self-sufficiency and ending dependence in military industry and the manufacture of war equipment up to now, what steps have been taken and what is the overall percentage of success in manufacturing arms and artillery?

[Sohrabi] Obviously at any time but the present, I would have been able to answer your question more openly so that you and the martyr-nurturing Muslim ummah would be more amazed and praiseful. At present I can tell you in brief that our self-sufficiency from the viewpoint of strategy and tactics is very good, meaning that from the viewpoint of strategic initiative and operational planning we are completely independent of other countries. From the technical standpoint, although the technology of raw materials and military equipment parts are mainly in the hands of large countries, through bravery, faith, and morality which we know exists in the specialized Army personnel, we have reached a satisfactory level of self-sufficiency. We hope that one day we will be able to completely take away the effective sources of technical independence from the superpowers.

[Correspondent] What is your evaluation of the position of the Islamic Republic Army in connection with the aggressive Iraqi Army?

[Sohrabi] In reply, I must say that at present it is not the Iraqi Army that is opposing us, but the collected cooperation of about 15 countries, large and small, who are each at war with us in a way. Therefore we never consider the Iraqi Army as a comparable standard against our own Army. However, in order to answer your question I will inform you of my own evaluation in brief. This evaluation must be made from two points. First, the resources available to both countries in terms of quality and quantity, and second in terms of making use of these resources in the war.

1. On resources, I must say that if the main resources are compared in catagories such as finances, military equipment, and human resources, the comparison is as follows:

a. From the point of view of finances, our advantage over Iraq is that we are carrying out the war within the framework of a 5-year economic and social expansion plan following the revolution. We are trying to make sure that our military expenditures are carried out in a sensible and legal manner while considering the necessary credits for other social and economic projects in society. Meanwhile, through a fundamental plan and by economizing we have been able to make the expenses of war tolerable, while the Iraqi Army is drowning in it's military extravagance, even though they benefit from financial and material assistance from other countries. Iraq does not stop at anything in using the money of the deprived Iraqi people for preparing military equipment. It is obvious that this policy for financial security in the long run will not be tolerated in Iraq or in any other country.

b. From the point of view of military equipment and resources it is obvious that the market for death dealers and arms dealers is open to the Iraqi Army and closed to our Army. Although this matter up to now has brought nothing but problems and distress for Saddam, for us it has been a compulsory success which has forced us to use all our power and effort toward self-sufficiency.

c. From the point of view of human resources, which is one of the topics of discussion regarding our country and Iraq, the major analysis by others has concentrated on the quantity of human resources, viewing it as human waves. However, our successes in the area of human resources are based on the quality of our human resources in the Armed Forces, which others have hardly evaluated. They either do not know or do not wish to accept. It is the particular belief in self-sacrifice, seeking martyrdom, contentment, and endurance within our Armed Forces which has increased the power of our Army by 75 percent.

2. The statistics for using military resources in the war can be discussed on three levels. On the strategic level which determine the longterm consequences of the war; on the level of tactics, which includes plans for war operations; and finally on the technical level and from the point of view of strategy. It has been known that Iraq was planning to reach it's military goal in 10 days. This shows how Iraq arrived on the war scene with an unrealistic view and without any strategic planning. From the point of view of tactics, although Iraq carried out it's operational plans which were copied and readymade for them, it was still unable to reach it's tactical goals due to lack of ability to manage and implement the plans.

[Correspondent] Please give us details of the new plans for the Army and the changes to be made based on the plans.

[Sohrabi] The new plans for the Army were prepared at the beginning of the victory of the revolution. During recent years, due to the efforts of the defense commission of Majlis and the cooperation of the Army, the plans were approved in general by the Majlis. However, detailed approval of the plan will certainly need further research before it is put into effect. The main goal of the new plan is to make changes in management planning and the human forces within the Islamic Republic so that it can perform it's appointed missions as specified by the Constitution. Obviously a useful, effective plan needs necessary research and analysis. The defense commission of the Islamic Republic Majlis with the cooperation of the Islamic Republic Army is currently carrying out research and analysis of the plans up to the final approved stages.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique 8 May

LD081531 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Tuesday shelled Iraqi tank and artillery fire, the Joint Staff communique reported today. It said the bombardment killed and wounded a group of Iraqi soldiers and halted their movement in the area.

In the northwestern fronts of Piranshahr and Marivan, Iranian combatants put Iraqi supply routes and heavy guns under fire, the communique said.

An Iraqi truck convoy in the southern fronts was attacked by Iranian troops and a number of trucks carrying ammunition exploded. Iraqi bunkers were also attacked.

On the shores of the Arvand River a number of Iraqi bunkers were destroyed as a result of Iranian shelling.

Iraq Executes Soldiers for Refusing To Fight

LD082213 Tehran IRNA in English 1757 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov. May 8 IRNA — Some 30 troops of an Iraqi Army battalion were executed in Baghdad for refusing to fight against Islamic combatants, an informed source reported. Reports also indicate unrest in several Iraqi cites. A group of Muslim revolutionaries in Al-Mawsil, were summarily executed.

Iraq Establishing Border Security Zone

GF080636 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The authorities of the Saddam regime have expelled some oppressed clans in the regions of Basra, Al-Amarah, Mandali, and Khanaqin from their homes with the aim of establishing a security belt along the southern and northern borders of Iraq. Reports from inside Iraq said that the Baghdad Zionists have recently expelled the inhabitants of the cities of Basra and Al-Amarah to the Iraqi-Saudi border. They also expelled inhabitants of the cities of Mandali and Khanaqin to the city of Umm Salim in the Province of Diyala out of fear of possible attacks by the Muslim fighters, and out of fear that the clans residing in the southern and northern cities of Iraq will declare their solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The reports added that the houses of the expelled families have been turned over to those whom the security organ and the Ba'th Party offices have proved their loyalty to the Saddam regime.

IRNA Examines Israeli Policy in Lebanon

LD072101 Tehran IRNA in English 1736 GMT 7 May 85

["Lebanon — 35 Months After Zionists' Invasion" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Thirty five months since its occupation by the Zionist forces, Lebanon seems now to be on the threshold of significant developments while Washington and the Zionist regime are pooling their best effort for dismembering the country.

As the Zionists invaded Lebanon in June 1982, they decided to pave the way for their agents in the event they themselves should fail to take the reins of power in their own hands, and thereby fulfill their goals in relation with what they have termed 'the security of the northern borders of Israel'.

The strategy for attaining the goal was manifested in the support for certain groups such as the Phalanges. The idea was to pit certain Muslim revolutionary groups and supporters of the Islamic Revolution against other Lebanese and involve them in encounters with one another so that the principal issue — the Zionist regime — and its presence in lebanon would be automatically put aside as a side issue.

The Zionist regime therefore looked forward to witnessing continued clashes between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims as well as between the Druze Muslims and Christians so that the situation would afford the Zionist regime a unique opportunity for attaining its long-awaited hopes for Lebanon.

The Zionists' bolstering of Sa'ad Haddad's Army and their lavish aids to Katayeb's Phalange party, their involvement in the massacre of people in Sabra and Shatila, their military invasion of Lebanon, their underhanded promotion of sectarian flights in Lebanon and their fuelling of a civil war in that country have been part of a scenario written by the Zionists for Lebanon.

What was apparently overlooked in the scenario was the potential power of revolutionary Shi'ite Muslims in Lebanon who as ardent supporters of the Islamic Revolution in Iran have been fighting crucial battles with the Zionists as a group of devoted Muslims.

Obsessing the Zionists with their self-sacrificing operations and gradually growing as the most significant power in Lebanon, the Muslim revolutionaries have been solely responsible for ousting of the U.S. forces from Lebanon, as well as for exerting psychological and actual pressure upon the so-called multi-national peace keeping forces in that country. In the encounters with the Zionists the revolutionary Muslims have throughout their fighting employed novel techniques astounding the West and East and dealing a deadly blow upon the Zionist forces for the first time in the course of the Arab-Zionist fights.

The belligerent spirit on the part of the Muslim revolutionaries prompted the Lebanese Government to venture to ignore its May 17th, 1983 peace accord with the Zionist regime, while as a result of its political maneuvers Damascus eventually managed to pose as a significant element in evaluating the situation in Lebanon. While the Lebanese president had lost much of his popularity among the oppressed masses in Lebanon he nevertheless won himself some sort of fresh prestige, feeling bold enough to repeal the May 17th accord.

As the long daily encounters between Muslims and the Zionist troops have continued in Lebanon during the past 35 months the saga of the indefeatability of the Zionist forces, too, has been disproved. The Zionist forces finding themselves faced with

increasing military pressure by Muslims gradually beat the retreat though by getting support from Washington. The Zionist government could perhaps afford to prolong its stay in Lebanon which was estimated to cost it about 1.5 million dollars daily. The increasing casualties inflicted upon the Zionist troops — estimated to have been at least 4,000 though the actual figure must be more — prevented the zionist troops from perpetuating their occupation of lebanon.

In April 1984 the Zionist government impressed by Kissinger's formula designed a scheme for dividing Lebanon between various ethnic groups in the country. The Western news agencies said in their dispatches in April that the scheme had been presented to the U.S. State Department. In the same month the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz said Washington and Tel Aviv were in agreement in relations with Lebanon and added that he was fully aware of the intention of the Zionist government in Lebanon.

As early as 1983 the Zionists had ventured to try dividing the various ethnic groups in Lebanon by providing material support to certain groups of their choice. In its July 4th, 1983 issue the English dialy *JERUSALEM POST* said the Phalange party of Lebanon had held talks with the provisional government in the occupied Palestine since 20 years ago and that ever since then it had maintained cooperation with the Zionist regime.

Fresh efforts for creating new organizations with a view to supporting the Zionist regime were made, leading to the formation of a south Lebanese army commanded some years ago by Major Sa'ad Haddad and later on Antoine Lahd. In an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS on 23rd April 1984 Major Lahd said that the Zionist government was shouldering the expense for his men.

On March 12, 1983 the Kuwait news agency KUNA said in a dispatch that 'Palestine National Guard' an armed group getting support from the Zionist government had been created in the south of Lebanon. The agency also said in the same dispatch that a guerrilla group of Sunni Muslims had been created in Sidon. It said the group got support from the Zionists.

Today the Zionist government is hoping to capitalize on the internal situation in Lebanon which is marked by differences potentially capable of dividing Lebanon. Most of all the Zionist government cherishes the hope of settling a group of Christians along a 15-kilometre-wide strait towards the southern parts of Lebanon as a buffer zone and provide the Christians with military weapons.

To promote the idea the Zionist government has long since iaunched out a propaganda campaign exploiting the international media for inculcating in the minds of the world people that in Lebanon there can be no peaceful coexistence between Muslims and Christians and that therefore the two groups would better be segregated.

The news agency magnates and influential media throughout the Western world are obviously giving the Zionist government a much helpful hand to develop the same outlooks in the minds of the less knowledgeable world people in relation with Lebanon as is desired by the Zionists. [Sentence as received]

Should this conspiracy ever materialize it will without argument disarray the Muslim countries of the region possibly because of their different outlooks it is likely to generate in them in deciding to support either one of the ethnic groups in Lebanon. [Sentence as received]

In light of the potential threats to the Muslim nations, Lebanon's Muslim people would be wise to watch out for the conspiracies of the world imperialism and resist U.S. and Zionists' plots for dismembering their country.

They would benefit by looking in retrospect to the Islamic Revolution in Iran and to realize that if the world Muslims are ever to gain power, they can gain it by their own unity. Let Imam Khomeyni's emphasis on the need for a unity of purpose among the Muslim world be heeded as the first basic move for its long-awaited triumph over the world's colonialist powers and let Iran's experience and its accomplishments show the road to its future followers.

Free Voice of Iran Notes Continued Opposition

GF081732 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The Iranian people's opposition continues against the personal war between Ayatollah Khomeyni and Iraq. This opposition increased notably when in the ayatollah's last offensive into Iraqi territory, 32,000 Iranian youths were killed. The number of Iranians killed, as estimated by American experts, has been reported to be more than 50,000.

The opposition of the Iranian Armed Forces towards the continuation of the war and the handing over of the command of war maneuvers and tactics to the Revolutionary Guards [words indistinct] and the human wave assaults in the war fronts in the defeated Badr operations and the regime's efforts to make a nation full of mourners at the start of the new year [words indistinct] fan the flames of hatred of the Iranian people towards the ruling clerics and the mullahs.

From then on, the wave of unrest has not ebbed in Iran. According to reports from Free Voice of Iran correspondents in Iran, people all over the country are against the continuation of the war. Despite the attacks of hezbollahis and the revolutionary guards, demonstrations, protests and unrest continue.

These protests are not only manifested in the form of marches in the streets of Tehran and the provinces, but have included clashes with the Revolutionary Guards and pressure groups called hezbollahis. They have also included other methods of hitting back against the regime.

One of these methods is pouring sugar in the gas tanks of cars belonging to the Revolutionary Guards, which prevents them from getting to the demonstration sites to engage in violence with the people. If this method continues of pouring sugar into the gas tanks of cars belonging to Revolutionary Guards and the various pressure groups of hezbollahis, the people of our country can participate in demonstrations against the regime with less fear.

One report indicates that in Ahvaz during demonstrations held in the so-called Imam Street against the regime, people had used this trick and had rendered the Revolutionary Guards' cars useless.

One report from Bushehr indicates that coinciding with the people's demonstrations against the regime, a ship full of cargo from communist Korea, bound for the so-called Islamic regime of Khomeyni, was set on fire. Clandestine radio Nejat, the voice of the Nejat-e Iran movement, reported last night that the ship belonging to communist Korea anchored at the port of Bushehr last Friday and caught fire on Saturday after a huge explosion was heard in the area. According to this radio, three crew members were wounded and moved to the Red Crescent Hospital in Bushehr. So far no individual or group has claimed responsibility for this incident.

One Armed Forces colonel, Kasireh, admitted a while ago in Tehran that the Islamic Republic's opponents have infiltrated all of the regime's organizations. All in all the impression of the Free Voice of Iran reporters is that the power struggle prevalent in the regime has caused different rival power groups to undertake such actions to defame other groups and to prevent their activities.

It is said that some of the groups within the regime are against the influence of Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani in the Revolutionary Guards and have forced their own elements within the guards to undertake certain acts of sabotage.

Increased Military Activity Cited in Gulf

GF081818 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] A Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Khuzestan has telephoned to say that from the beginning of the current week a number of foreign warships and battleships, the identity of which is not yet known, have suddenly increased at the mouth of the Persian Gulf. There are also reports of the landing of a division of foreign soldiers in the Sultanate of Oman close to the Strait of Hormoz and speeding up of the work of construction and port building in Oman.

The Nejat-e Iran correspondent, quoting Iranian residents of the sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf, adds that along with the coast of Masirah Island and other small and large islands of the southern coast of the Persian Gulf, military airports are being constructed with great speed one after the other. Moreover, the concentration of warships from the Indian Ocean to the mouth of the Persian Gulf has increased considerably.

We must add that the biggest airports in the region which were under construction for the last 20 months in Saudi Arabia are about to be completed.

According to political observers the growing military movements have a direct relation to future events which may occur in the north and south of the Persian Gulf. Eight Arab countries in the Persian Gulf are getting ready for another military maneuver in which the Armies of Britain, the United States, Egypt, and Jordan will participate.

NVOI Calls For Unified Front Against Regime

TA072000 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 7 May 85

[Unattributed commentary: "The Need To Cooperate Within a United Popular Anti-Imperialist Front"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Events over the last few years have shown that Mr Khomeyni's reactionary antipeople government has exploited and continues to exploit to the utmost discord, division, and disagreement among progressive revolutionary forces and organizations that had an enormous role in bringing to fruition the Iranian people's revolution.

The Islamic rulers, during the entire period in which they seized power, have always tried and continue to try to aggravate the dispersion of revolutionary forces to prevent understanding and cooperation among these forces. One must say with deep regret that these forces themselves, which are mainly struggling separately, are facilitating the implementation of the satanic aims of the treacherous Islamic rulers.

Of course, if the genuine revolutionary forces, whether Tudeh, Feda'i, or democrats and other popular forces — be they religious or nonreligious — put aside the differences among them which are extremely inconsequential in the face of the main goal — that is the expulsion of the usurping Islamic government and the establishment of a popular democratic government in the country, and were to exert their efforts for the establishment of a united popular, antidespotic, and anti-imperialist front, they could achieve considerable successes in the struggle against the repressive Islamic regime in our country.

The interests of the realm, the nation, and the Iranian people's revolution today more than at any other time dictate the need for unity and cohesion of genuine revolutionary forces within a joint revolutionary organ and front. These forces can and must act together with regard to specific and acute state issues, such as the problem of the war, the problem of political prisoners, the issue of exposing the Islamic leadership's destructive policy, and so forth.

The war of attrition desired by America and Khomeyni, and which is being prolonged with hysterical intransigence and stubbornness by the Islamic regime, has exhausted the entire Iranian people. The unprecedented terror and repression that the Islamic regime has imposed on our country has dealt similar blows to all the genuine revolutionary forces — the Iranian Tudeh Party, the Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization, the Democratic Party of Kordestan, and other forces that believe in the revolution. The members and followers of all these organizations are subjected to similar inhuman tortures by the executioners of Mr Khomeyni's cruel regime. The Islamic regime does not differentiate between a Tudeh, Feda'i, and democrat when torturing, killing, murdering, and executing these patriotic individuals, but kills all of them in an identical manner.

The cooperation of these genuine revolutionary forces in exposing the Islamic regime's warmongering policy, in exposing the treacherous domestic policy, as well as the regime's crimes against imprisoned patriotic individuals in the dungeons of the

Islamic regime, can become the beginning for the unity of these forces within a united popular anti-imperialist front and for the mobilization of all the people in a battle against Khomeyni's fascist-theocratic regime and for the establishment of a democratic government.

Despite the futile efforts of the Islamic regime's authorities to deepen differences among the aforesaid forces, today realistic conditions for foiling the satanic plans of these gentlemen in this connection are more favorable than ever. Fortunately, some of these organizations have also rightly reached and are reaching the conclusion that a common and unified front of genuine revolutionary forces is an unavoidable matter, and are acting toward this end. Evidence shows that in many cases, in the face of terror, persecution, and repression by the Islamic regime and in confrontation against it, members and followers of this or that revolutionary and democratic party and organization have acted and are acting together. There are numerous examples of a Tudeh member saving a Mojahed, or a Mojahed saving a Tudeh member or Feda'i from falling into the bloody clutches of the executioners of Khomeyni's Islamic regime.

Naturally, there are realistic conditions and possibilities for the establishment of alliance and unity of action among these forces in combat against Khomeyni's fascist-theocratic regime. These possibilities must be followed through. By the establishment of a united popular, antidespotic, and anti-imperialist front, all forces should be employed for the achievement of all the revolution's popular goals and aspirations.

Energy Minister Ghafuri-Fard Visits Saudi Arabia

For Saudi reportage on the visit of Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, minister of energy, to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including his meetings with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and general inspector, see the Arabian Peninsula section of the 9 May Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.